From: Dan Snyder
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/23/01 7:19pm

Subject: Why the MS settlement isn't enough

Dear US Justice Department,

I do not believe the remedies reported in the news are going to have the slightest impact on Microsoft's predatory marketing practices and illegal abuse of monopoly power.

Here are three quick examples from the past six months of how Microsoft continues to use their monopoly power in one market to destroy competition in another market.

- 1. Microsoft used it's operating systems monopoly to eliminate any serious competition in the web browser market. Microsoft is now using their web browser dominance to gain further control over Internet content by dropping support for industry-standard third-party browser plug-ins. Microsoft is doing this to force competition out of other Internet areas like streaming media. This move forces companies using the competing products to re-design their web sites. This is very expensive for companies and many of companies decide that since they are being forced to "redesign" they should use the Microsoft product to try and avoid a problem like this in the future.
- 2. Microsoft has removed the Java runtime environment from it's Windows XP operating system. Java applications can run on any operating system, which is a big threat to Microsoft's Operating Systems dominance. By doing this, Microsoft is making it harder for the average PC user to use Java based applications. Due to this added inconvenience of not having Java installed, thousands of customers will no longer use competing applications written in Java.
- 3. In Windows XP, Microsoft has dropped support for saving files in the industry standard MP3 format in favor of their own proprietary format. Again, Microsoft is trying to use their operating system to gain control of another market, the digital music market.

Please reconsider this "hand slap" settlement. Only breaking up the company will open up competition and benefit consumers, since Microsoft could then no longer leverage monopoly power in one market to gain monopoly power in another market.

Thanks for your time,	
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